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# Halloween Safety Tips

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## Did You Know?

- Four times as many children aged 5-14 are killed while walking on Halloween evening compared with other evenings of the year.
- Falls are the leading cause of injuries among children on Halloween.

Parents, guardians, and care takers can help prevent children from getting injured at Halloween by following these safety tips.



## Children Should:

- Secure name, address, and phone number discreetly within Halloween attire.
- Know their phone number and carry coins for emergency phone calls.
- Have a good meal prior to trick-or-treating to discourage children from filling up on Halloween treats.
- Travel in small groups and be accompanied by a responsible adult, guardian/parent.
- Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches rather than entering houses.
- Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks, and avoid crossing yards.
- Wear clothing that is bright, reflective, and flame retardant.
- Consider using non-toxic face paint instead of masks (Masks can obstruct a child's vision).
- Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping and do not get entangled.

## Parents and Adults Should:

- Teach kids how to dial 9-1-1 if they become lost or face an emergency.
- Avoid giving choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys as treats to young children.
- Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and sidewalks of all debris, garden hoses, etc.
- Place jack-o-lanterns away from doorways and landings.
- Check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.
- Always have children get out of cars on the curbside, not on the traffic side.
- Make sure children 10 years and under are supervised as they cross the street.
- Exit driveways and alleyways carefully.
- Counsel children to wait until treats are sorted and examined at home before eating.

## Remember:

Many Halloween related injuries can be prevented if children and adults take the necessary steps to prevent injuries during trick-or-treat activities!

## Sources of information:

<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/octhalloween.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/safeusa/halloween.htm>